/156 cont./

Today, besides Mr. Matthews, only one missionary of the Melanesian Mission periodically lives on Nitendi, and colonization by Whites has never been very great. Thus there is little direct contact between Whites and natives on the island itself.

The inhabitants of Nitendi do not enjoy a very good reputation and are regarded as war-like and aggressive, probably not entirely unjustly, for Mendaña himself, the discoverer of the island, was greeted with a hail of arrows, even before he landed. This was the customary welcome accorded almost every stranger in Melanesia, however, and if elsewhere strangers were first induced to land then attacked, this in itself shows the more candid and more courageous character of the Nitendi men. And in fact, they seem candid and not very crafty, at least in comparison with the inhabitants of the New Hebrides. Now that they have become accustomed to generally peaceful intercourse with Whites as a result of missions and recruitment, they are, in contrast to other Melanesians, gay, trustful, and obliging, even in front of Whites. Only a slight infraction of their etiquette, however, arouses spontaneous enmity. Then they reach for the bow and arrow, but their anger quickly subsides, especially if they do not have the advantage, and a payment will usually atone for the crime. Often it seems as though they fight only to satisfy their laws. The beginnings of gratitude are there.

A sense for the comic is strongly developed. There is great fondness for ridicule, and their wit seems to be keen and to the point. A man's weak side is grasped in a moment and forever afterward it is laughed at and ridiculed. They have no compassion. Other people's suffering leaves them cold or amuses them, whereas their own pain is very strongly felt, not so much chronic suffering as acute injury.

Animals are tortured out of carelessness, but domestic animals are well cared for. Children are treated tenderly (1),

1. [Probably everywhere the smaller children are carried by the mother on the left hip in the bark-cloth shawl,

/210 cont./
535 shows a similar formation of the point and at the same time interesting ornamentation (5).]

5. [On the history of dance clubs in general, see the following article.] 1

524 Among the toys (6) there is a light bow, on whose string

6. [Ethn., I, p. 155.]

/211/ a bird, simply carved out of wood, slides up and down with a quivering motion (Fig. 58). Thilenius mentions a human figure made out of wood, which a person can make dance with his hand.
522 [On Pileni a common joke /Fig. 58 appears here/ is to tie the sleeping mat to the apron of the sleeper and then wake him up with a cry of alarm, whereupon he drags the mat behind him (1).]

1. [Coombe, p. 204.]

525 [534] There seem to be no musical instruments (2). As noise-

2. [Ethn., I, p. 155.]

making instruments, there are the simple dance rattle (Ethn., I, p. 155, Fig. 64) (3) and the rattle on the dance clubs, consisting

3. [The R.-J.-Museum also has a rattle of this kind in the Joest Collection, except that it is shorter, No. 4426, which hitherto has been erroneously put with the New Hebrides.]

of halved nuts.

535 533 [The songs that are sung at the dance festivals are performed by a principal singer while two choruses take up the
[Text continues on p. 128--Analyst]

1 [i.e. - Fey, W. Zur Geschichte der Tanzkeulen von den Santa-Cruz-Inseln. Ethnologica, Vol. II, pp. 215-238--Analyst]